Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add Claims 25-30 as follows.

1.-24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) An image processing method, comprising:

a face probability calculating step of identifying a candidate for a human face region within an image and calculating a human face probability that the candidate for the human face region represents a human face;

a portrait probability calculating step of multiplying a value corresponding to the human face probability and calculating a portrait probability that the image is a portrait; and

a judging step of judging whether the image is the portrait by comparing the portrait probability with a threshold value.

26. (New) An image processing method according to Claim 25, wherein said portrait probability calculating step includes a selecting step of selecting higher K human face probabilities from among the human face probabilities calculated in said face probability calculating step and a multiplying step of multiplying values corresponding to the selected K human face probabilities.

- 27. (New) An image processing method according to Claim 25, further comprising an image processing step of processing the image in accordance with the result in said judging step.
- 28. (New) An image processing method according to Claim 25, further comprising a saving step of saving human face probabilities regarding each of a plurality of partial spaces in M-dimensional space,

wherein, in said face probability calculating step, M-dimensional vectors are generated by applying a predetermined algorithm to the candidate for the human face region and a probability that the partial spaces corresponding to the generated M-dimensional vectors represent a human face is calculated from among the saved human face probabilities.

29. (New) An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a face probability calculating unit that identifies a candidate for a human face region within an image and calculates a human face probability that the candidate for the human face region represents a human face;

a portrait probability calculating unit that multiplies a value corresponding to the human face probability and calculates a portrait probability that the image is a portrait; and a judging unit that judges whether the image is the portrait by comparing the portrait probability with a threshold value.

30. (New) A program embodied on a computer-readable medium for performing an image processing method, said method comprising:

a face probability calculating step of identifying a candidate for a human face region within an image and calculating a human face probability that the candidate for the human face region represents a human face;

a portrait probability calculating step of multiplying a value corresponding to the human face probability and calculating a portrait probability that the image is a portrait; and a judging step of judging whether the image is the portrait by comparing the portrait probability with a threshold value.